

MITIGATED DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

Description of proposal:

Northwest Pipeline Corp. Everett Delta Lateral project proposes construction of an interconnect line along Soper Hill Road and 83rd Ave NE. Northwest will install approximately 1,300 feet of 8-inch and 750 feet of 6-inch pipe between the Soper Hill Regulator Station and an interconnection point located approximately 750 feet west of the intersection of 83rd Avenue NE and Soper Hill Road. This interconnection will be constructed within public right-of-way and will require a permit from Snohomish County. This pipe segment will be constructed in October 2004. The expected in-service date is November 2004.

Description of mitigation:

- Northwest will take many steps to reduce and control erosion during construction of the project. Northwest intends to construct the project during the “drier” portion of the year which will make erosion control much easier to accomplish. In addition, Northwest will construct the pipeline and aboveground facilities in compliance with FERC’s *Upland Erosion Control, Revegetation, and Maintenance Plan* (FERC’s Plan) and FERC’s *Wetland and Waterbody Construction and Mitigation Procedures* (FERC’s Procedures). FERC’s Plan and Procedures are designed to minimize the extent and duration of project-related disturbance and to control erosion and off-site sedimentation through implementation of pipeline-specific best management practices (BMPs).
- During construction the right-of-way will be watered as necessary to minimize impacts from fugitive dust.
- Numerous measures will be used to reduce and control impacts to groundwater and surface water. By drilling under the sloughs and the Snohomish River, Northwest has significantly reduced potential aquatic impacts from the project.
- A settlement agreement issued May 18, 2004 between NW Pipeline, Snohomish County, state departments of Ecology, Fish and Wildlife, and Natural Resources, Shorelines Hearings Board, Forest Practices Appeals Board, and Pollution Control Hearings Board also places additional requirements on NW as necessary to protect aquatic resources in the project area.
- FERC has adopted extensive measures to control and reduce impacts to aquatic resources. These measures are contained in FERC’s Procedures (see Appendix C of this SEPA Checklist). They are also summarized in Appendix A of this SEPA Checklist. Further, to reduce the potential for ground and surface water contamination from spills, Northwest has prepared and will follow their SPCC Plan. A copy of the project’s SPCC Plan is provided as Appendix E of this SEPA Checklist.
- A discussion of revegetation of the project area is provided in Appendix A of this SEPA Checklist, Section 5.7. A Wetland Impacts and Mitigation Plan is provided in Appendix C of the Critical Areas Study.
- Northwest has proposed a number of conservation measures that, when implemented,

will reduce or eliminate potential effects to bull trout and/or chinook salmon by the Everett Delta Lateral Project. These measures are discussed in the Habitat Management Plan (see Appendix D of the Critical Areas Study).

- The pipeline will comply with all federal, state and local regulations designed to protect the environment. Other than the meter station, block valve assembly and regulator station (City of Everett), the pipeline will be buried underground. Where feasible, the pipeline has been located with other road and utility rights-of-way and parallel to property lines to ensure as little new disturbance as possible and to reduce conflicts with projected land uses and plans.
- The block valve and construction right-of-way have been located to maintain the existing tree screen along 24th Street.
- If construction lights are necessary they will be shielded and directed toward work areas.
- Northwest will comply with FERC's regulations as well as the stipulations of the Washington State Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation regarding protection of historical and cultural resources.
- Transportation impacts will be temporary and will occur only during construction. Northwest will implement the following to reduce the temporary transportation construction impacts:
 - Although the pipeline will cross State Highways 92 and 9, the route avoids construction within the roadbeds of these congested state highways. This will significantly reduce impeding traffic on these highways and the potential safety hazards.
 - Where Northwest will construct across roads or within the improved road right-of-way, every effort will be made to maintain one open lane of traffic by using flag persons and steel plates over open trench areas.
 - If construction is not complete during work hours, all trenches across public roads will either be backfilled to grade or heavy plates will be placed across the trench and the location specifically marked with warning signs prior to the completion of the day's work activities.
 - Temporary closures, if necessary, will be planned to avoid peak travel times.

Proponent: Northwest Pipeline Corporation (Northwest)

Location of proposal, including street address, if any: Generally, the pipeline will be constructed in the western portion of Snohomish County and extend from an area a few miles north of Lake Stevens to the west, crossing south of Marysville and across the Snohomish River Floodplain, toward Possession Sound and the City of Everett (see Appendix A for a detailed discussion of the project's location). The pipeline will cross 8.13 miles of unincorporated Snohomish County and 1.06 mile of the City of Everett.

Lead agency: Washington State Department of Natural Resource

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

☐ There is no comment period for this Mitigated DNS.

☒ This MDNS is issued under 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from August 5, 2004. Comments must be submitted by August 19, 2004

Responsible official: Loren Stern

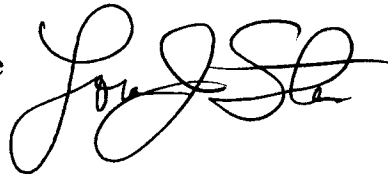
Position/title: Aquatic Resources Division Manager

Phone: 360-902-1100

Address: 1111 Washington Street SE
PO Box 47027
Olympia, WA 98504-7027

Date 8-2-04

Signature



There is no agency SEPA appeal.
11/09/00